

June 24, 2003

Docket Management Room PL-401 400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Docket NHTSA 2003-14375 – 37

I am writing to express my opinion that the referenced proposed study would be a senseless and meaningless waste of taxpayer dollars. The important issue, and one that IS worthy of taxpayer funds, is to educate automobile drivers to be aware of the presence of motorcycles. In addition, legislation should be enacted that criminalizes automobile drivers' failure to yield right of way. Multiple studies have shown that by far the leading cause of motorcycle injuries is automobile drivers' failure to yield right of way.

For the most part, rider operator characteristics, attitudes, and behaviors do NOT affect their safety. However, the characteristics, attitudes, and behaviors of automobile drivers DO affect motorcycle riders' safety.

Robert J. Davis